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HEALTH CARE STUDIES AND

CLINICAL INVESTIGATION ACTIVITY







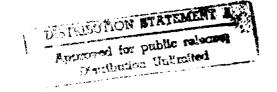
PATIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY 1990-1991

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FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234



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PATIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY

Background

The patient satisfaction survey tasking came from Headquarters, Health Services Command requesting the GHAA Consumer Satisfaction Survey instrument be used to survey potential users of DoD medical treatment facilities (HSC Task Number 2293).

The Patient Satisfaction Survey project was begun in June 1989 with the request to the Group Health Association of America (GHAA) for permission to modify the GHAA Consumer Satisfaction Survey items for use with a military population. With GHAA's permission, the survey items were staffed with the U.S. Army Soldier Support Center National Capitol Region in accordance with AR 600-46. A survey control number was assigned by Soldier Support Center NCR (ATNC-A0-89-26, RCS:MILPC-3). The 1989-1990 study resulted in a report (Mangelsdorff, 1990). It was recommended that patient satisfaction surveys be conducted each year with the results provided to Headquarters, Health Services Command. In 1990, GHAA modified the Consumer Satisfaction Survey instrument. The present report documents the 1990-1991 effort.

METHOD

Subjects

Patient Satisfaction Surveys were mailed to 9,200 eligible beneficiaries at 38 Army medical treatment facilities (MTFs). For each of the medical centers, 400 individuals were selected; for the other medical activities, 200 individuals were chosen. Subjects were randomly selected from Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System (DEERS) data lists using zipcodes in the MTF catchment areas. The distribution of subjects from Army, Navy/Marine, and Air Force populations reflected the distribution in the DEERS data lists.

Procedure

A survey control number was assigned by Soldier Support Center NCR (ATNC-AO-91-24, RCS:MILPC-3). Control numbers were used to identify the MTF and the category of beneficiary (active duty, active duty dependent, retired, or retired/deceased dependent); this became the "anticipated" category of beneficiary. Subjects reported their own category of beneficiary; this became the "self reported" category of beneficiary. The lists of eligible beneficiaries were determined from the DEERS patient populations at the selected Army MTFs. Mailing labels were developed from the DEERS lists broken down by zipcode areas around the Army MTFs. Problems with the format of the DEERS lists, missing or incomplete addresses, and Operation Desert Shield/ Storm delayed the development of mailing lists.

The modified GHAA Consumer Satisfaction Survey instrument was adapted for a military population. Survey instruments were sent out from November 1990 through April 1991. As surveys were returned, the contents were edited and comments coded. Items were scored as suggested by GHAA. Content categories were developed using the GHAA criteria. The ten GHAA content categories were access, finances, technical quality, communication, choice and continuity, interpersonal care, outcomes, overall quality, time spent, and general satisfaction. The survey instrument is contained in Appendix A and average responses in Table 1.

Overview.

Descriptive statistics were computed for respondents' demographics as to category of beneficiary, branch of service, gender, and rank. Psychometrics on the GHAA content categories for the rated items were examined using factor analyses and reliability estimates. Comparative analyses were conducted by category of beneficiary (Active Duty, Active Duty Dependent, Retired, Retired/Deceased Dependent), type of nearest DoD facility (MEDCEN, MEDDAC), type of health care program used (DoD MTF Only, CHAMPUS Plus, Private/Other), and use patterns. Comments written by respondents were analyzed for content.

RESULTS

DEMOGRAPHICS

As of 31 July 1991, responses had been received from 3,050 individuals, with an additional 860 surveys returned as undeliverable. The usable return rate was 36.6%.

Category of Beneficiary Users

The distribution of eligible beneficiary categories of the 9,200 sent out was Active Duty (35.1%), Active Duty Dependents (19.5%), Retired (25.2%), and Retired/Deceased Dependents (20.0%). Of the 3,050 respondents analyzed, the proportions for the "anticipated" beneficiary categories were Active Duty (24.5%), Active Duty Dependents (13.6%), Retired (35.9%), Retired/Deceased Dependents (26.0%), and unidentified (0.1%). The proportions as "self reported" by the respondents were Active Duty (26.1%), Active Duty Dependents (11.7%), Retired (38.9%), Retired/Deceased Dependents (23.3%). There was not a significant difference between the distributions (r=.949). The "self reported" category of beneficiary was used for all analyses.

Branch of Service

The distribution of respondents and category of beneficiary by branch of service follows.

	Category Act Duty	of Benefici ActDuDep	ary of <u>Popula</u> <u>Retired</u>	tion Sent Out Ret/Dec dep
Branch of Servi	ce			
Army	2475	1349	1270	1017
Air Force	328	197	632	512
Navy/Marines	428	222	449	321

Category of Beneficiary of Respondents												
	Act Duty ActDuDep Retired Ret/Dec dep Else											
Branch of Service												
Army 599 268 686 406 0												
Air Force	101	44	300	221	0							
Navy/Marines	94	44	198	85	0							
Unidentified	2	0	2	0	0							
	Category	of Beneficia	ry of <u>Undeli</u>	verable/Return	<u>s</u>							
Act Duty ActDuDep Retired Ret/Dec dep												
Branch of Service												

	ver part	Accouded	Necried	<u>Ke C7 De C</u>
Branch of Service	ce			
Army	320	208	68	17
Air Force	26	17	40	14
Navy/Marines	75	38	30	7
Unidentified	0	0	0	0

The distribution of respondents, category of beneficiary, and gender by branch of service follows.

	Category of Beneficiary of <u>Respondents</u>												
	<u>Act</u>	Duty	ActD	<u>uDep</u>	Reti	red	<u>Ret/</u>	<u>Else</u>					
	Male	Fmle	Male	Fmle	Male	Fmle	Male	Fmle					
Branch of Servic	۵.												
Army	471	128	14	254	616	70	7	399	0				
Air Force	77	24	7	37	273	27	2	219	0				
Navy/Marines	68	26	2	42	188	10	2	83	0				
Unidentified	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1				

The distribution of respondents, category of beneficiary, and rank by branch of service follows.

nch of service to	llows	•											
		Ca	tego	ry of	Bene	ficia	ary o	f <u>Res</u>	ponde	<u>nts</u>			
	Act	t Dut	Y				ActD	uDep					
	E1-5	E6-9	WO	01-3	04-6	Gen	E1-5	E6-9	MO	01-3	04-6	Gen	
Branch of Servic	е												
Army	227	186	14	112	60	0	68	107	17	34	42	0	
Air Force	47	33	0	14		0	12	16	0	4	12		
Navy/Marines	31	33			11		8	17			12		
Unidentified	1	0	0	0	1	Õ	Ō	0	Ō	Ö	0	Ō	
		Car	tenni	ry of	Rono	fici	arv o	f Rosi	nonde	nts			
Ret	ired	Cu	ecgo.		Dene	1 1011		ired/)en		
	E1-5	E6-9	WO	01-3	04-6	Gen						04-6	Gen
Branch of Servic	е												
Army 0	35	375	49	24	187	16	0	18	219	41	12	113	3
Air Force 0	23	179	4	13	78	3	0	13	130	4	2	68	4
Navy/Marines 0		97	ġ	12	68	3	Ö	1	39		5		ż
Unident 0		1	ī	0	0	Õ	Ō	ō	Č		Ô	0	ñ

PSYCHOMETRICS

The GHAA survey instrument consists of 34 rated items using a 5-point Likert scale. For the present study, one additional scale point was added to the GHAA 5-point scale, that of "Have Not Used; it was scored as a missing value.

A series of analyses were conducted to determine the psychometric properties of the items. The details are contained in Appendix A. The analyses included a principal components factor analysis of the 34 rated items; the amount of variance accounted for was 70.8%. The GHAA content categories were subjected to reliability estimates using the Kuder Richardson procedure to calculate coefficient alphas. Reliability estimates were calculated for the item clusters extracted from the factor analysis. Interitem Pearson product moment correlation coefficients were calculated between selected items. In general, the GHAA content area items had quite acceptable psychometric properties, with coefficient alphas ranging from .844 to .954.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSES

Scoring of Content Categories

GHAA recommended transformation of the data by adding all of the items in a content category, subtracting the lowest possible score, and dividing the result by the range of scores possible. This assumes all subjects use all services and answer all questions; the GHAA scoring system was not practical as not all respondents used all the services or answered all of the items. The scoring method chosen for each content category was to calculate a mean of all of the items responded to by the subject. Mean content category responses for each respondent were the dependent measures. Table 1 summarizes item responses within content categories.

Overview

Analysis of variance (ANOVA) comparisons were made on the ten GHAA content categories; comparisons were made for Category of Beneficiary, Type of Nearest DoD Facility, Type of Health Care Program Used, and use patterns. Means of the content category responses for each respondent were the dependent measures. One-way ANOVA comparisons are summarized in Table 2, while four-way ANOVA findings for main effects and interactions are shown in Table 3. The findings follow.

Category of Beneficiary Users

The proportions as "self reported" by the respondents were Active Duty (26.1%), Active Duty Dependents (11.7%), Retired (38.9%), Retired/Deceased Dependents (23.3%). Table 2 contains a summary of the means and one-way analysis of variance comparisons. There were significant differences between the categories of beneficiaries for each of the content categories. In general, the Retired were significantly more satisfied, while the Active Duty Dependents were least satisfied.

Type of Nearest DoD Facility

Comparisons were made between eligible beneficiaries in the zipcode areas of Army Medical Centers (MEDCENS) and Army Medical Activities (MEDDACS). Of the surveys analyzed, 37.6% were returned from MEDCENS, the remainder from MEDDACS. Table 2 contains a summary of the means and one-way analysis of variance comparisons. There were significant differences between eligible beneficiaries near MEDCENS versus those near MEDDACS; those near MEDCENS reported being significantly more satisfied.

Type of Health Care Program Used

Comparisons were made between the types of health care program used in response to Q35. Responses were collapsed as follows: DoD Medical Treatment Facility only (44.3%), CHAMPUS or some combination with CHAMPUS (36.1%), private health insurance (19.6%). Table 2 contains a summary of the means and one-way analysis of variance comparisons. There were significant differences between the types of health care program used; the users of the DoD Medical Treatment Facility were generally most satisfied, while the CHAMPUS users were significantly less satisfied.

Who Uses the DoD Health System?

In response to Q39, 96.4% asserted to have used the DoD Health System. The distribution of individuals who had used the DoD Health System broken down by category of beneficiary was Active Duty (97.9%), Active Duty Dependents (99.1%), Retired (94.9%), and Retired/Deceased Dependents (96.5%).

In response to Q41, 82.9% of respondents reported using the MTF in the last 12 months. The distribution of recent users by category of beneficiary was Active Duty (88.6%), Active Duty Dependents (93.9%), Retired (75.5%), and Retired/Deceased Dependents (81.7%).

In response to Q42, 14.4% stated overnight admission for medical care during the last 12 months (n=387). The distribution of inpatient admissions by category of beneficiary was Active Duty (17.2%), Active Duty Dependents (17.2%), Retired (13.1%), and Retired/Deceased Dependents (11.5%).

Response to Q44 showed that 80.4% made outpatient visits for medical care during the last 12 months (n=2156). The distribution of outpatient visits by category of beneficiary was Active Duty (84.3%), Active Duty Dependents (91.3%), Retired (74.1%), and Retired/Deceased Dependents (79.4%).

Level of Satisfaction: Ratings

The overall level of satisfaction reported was good (mid-point on a 5-point scale). Table 1 summarizes the findings. The most satisfaction was expressed with the areas dealing with interpersonal care, the technical quality, and access to care facilities. The specific issues with the highest satisfaction ratings were (Q3) "Convenience of the location of the office;" (Q25) "Friendliness and courtesy shown to you by doctors and medical staff;" (Q27) "Respect shown to you, attention to your privacy;" (Q13) "Services available for getting prescriptions filled;" and (Q17) "Skill, experience, and training of doctors."

The lowest satisfaction ratings were with choice of personal doctor and telephone access to information. The specific issues with the lowest ratings were (Q23) "Arrangements for choosing a personal doctor," (Q24) "Ease of seeing the doctor of your choice," (Q11) "Availability of medica! information or advice by phone," and (Q10) "Length of time you wait between making an appointment for routine care and the day of your visit."

COMMENTS

<u>Level of Satisfaction: Comments</u>

The comments added by the respondents supported a moderate level of general satisfaction with the medical care received. The most positive comments dealt with specific MTFs. There were emphatic negative comments offered about several areas. Specific negative comments dealt with the appointment system, access to specialty care, a particular clinic or service, specific physicians, and the waiting time at the office to see the doctor. Table 4 summarizes the content of the comments offered in the major categories.

DISCUSSION

Areas Needing Change

Among the areas rated needing attention were those dealing with the appointment system, waiting times, the choice of a particular provider, and phone access to care. The specific issues with the lowest satisfaction ratings were with the (Q23) "Arrangements for choosing a personal doctor," (Q24) "Ease of seeing the doctor of your choice," (Q11) "Availability of medical information or advice by phone," and (Q10) "Length of time you wait between making an appointment for routine care and the day of your visit." The comments added by the respondents were specifically negative about the appointment systems, particular clinics or programs, and the waiting times.

These were almost the identical issues that were reported as needing change in the 1989-1990 survey. Similarly, the areas of satisfaction reported in 1990-1991 paralleled those of 1989-1990.

What Do These Findings Mean?

The majority of the respondents are using outpatient services at DoD MTFs. Individuals who have used the DoD Health System are generally satisfied with the care provided by the doctors and staff, particularly the interpersonal dynamics (the friendliness, courtesy, respect, reassurance, and support given to the patients). Once the patient got into the system, the MTF staff was perceived as providing good health care. This has been consistent between the 1989-1990 and 1990-1991 surveys. The problem was obtaining access to the system or telephone information about specific problems. The retired patients were most satisfied with the care provided, while the Active duty dependents were least. The retired patients were most likely to add comments about their experiences.

Comparisons With Previous Studies

Literature searches of the Medline and the Defense Technical Information Center data bases revealed a number of citations on patient satisfaction. Patient expectations and satisfaction have been examined in numerous studies (Brooks, 1973; Davies and Ware, 1988; Fisher, 1971; Lebow, 1974, 1975, 1983; Houston and Pasanen, 1972; Hulka, Zyzanski, Cassel, and Thompson, 1970; Mangelsdorff, 1979, 1980; Ware, 1976; Ware, Davies-Avery, and Stewart, 1978; Ware and Hays, 1988; Ware and Snyder, 1975; Ware, Wright, Snyder, and Chu, 1975; Zyzanski, Hulka, and Cassel, 1974). Within the DoD health care system, major studies have included the DoD Report of the Military Health Care Study (December, 1975), the DoD 1984 Health Care Survey (April, 1985), the General Accounting Office (GAO) surveys of military hospital patients views (September, 1989), and the RAND Corporation Health Care Reform Evaluation Study (ongoing).

The GAO study (1989) findings are most similar to the 1989-1990 and 1990-1991 studies. The GAO results showed overall satisfaction with the care received in the military treatment facilities surveyed (three were Army facilities). The active duty personnel and dependents were somewhat less satisfied with the care than were retirees and their dependents. Patients generally considered the MTF staff to be courteous and competent. Outpatient appointments often were difficult to make. Comments on outpatient care dealt with rude or impersonal staff, more staff needed, and staff perceived as incompetent. Comments on inpatient care included rude or impersonal staff, compliments to hospital or staff, and staff perceived as incompetent.

CONCLUSIONS

There has been consistency between the findings of the 1989 i990 and 1990-1991 studies. Eligible beneficiaries reported moderate satisfaction with the health care received in military medical treatment facilities. The retired personnel reported the most satisfaction, while the active duty dependents were least satisfied. Individuals who have used the military health care system are generally satisfied with the docturs and staff, particularly the friendliness courtesy, and support given. Specific problems included the appointment systems, access to services, telephone information or advice, waiting times, and difficulties with particular clinics or personnel. The majority of the respondents are using outpatient services.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Periodic surveys need to be conducted to assess changes in the heilth care delivery system. Feedback of findings for publication in post newspapers would be helpful to praise medical treatment personnel for the good work being done, while offering suggestions for further improvement.

TABLE 1

DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS: MEAN AND MEDIAN RESPONSES
FOR ITEMS IN CONTENT CATEGORIES

CONT	ENT	MEAN	MEDIAN	n
	SS TO CARE			
3.				
_	of the doctor's office	3.60	4 (Very good)	2441
4.	Hours when the doctor's office		2 (2 1)	0.4.0.0
-	is open	3.42	3 (Good)	2422
5.	Access to specialty care if	2 00	2 (04)	2216
_	you need it	2.90	3 (Good)	2216
6.	Access to hospital care if	2 27	2 (Cood)	2222
7.	you need it Access to medical care in an	3.37	3 (Good)	2223
7.		3.47	1 (Vany good)	2213
8.	emergency Arrangements for making appoint-	3.4/	4 (Very good)	2213
٥.	ments for medical care by phone	2.59	2 (Fair)	2401
9.	Length of time spent waiting at	2.33	2 (1411)	2401
Э.	the office to see the doctor	2.58	2 (Fair)	2481
10.	Length of time you wait between	2.30	2 (1011)	2401
10.	making an appointment for routine			
	care and the day of your visit	2.52	2 (Fair)	2396
11.	Availability of medical infor-	2.02	L (1 L11)	2000
	mation or advice by phone	2.39	2 (Fair)	1840
12.	Access to medical care whenever		- ()	
	you need it	3.01	3 (Good)	2463
13.	Services available for getting		- (,	
	prescriptions filled	3.52	4 (Very good)	2475
			(, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
FINA	NCES			
14.	Protection you have against			
	financial hardship due to			
	medical expenses	3.18	3 (Good)	1850
15.	Arrangements for you to get			
	the medical care you need			
	without financial problems	3.27	3 (Good)	1864
	NICAL QUALITY			
16.	Thoroughness of examinations			
	and accuracy of diagnoses	3.30	3 (Good)	2469
17.	Skill, experience, and			
	training of doctors	3.50	4 (Very good)	2460
18.	Thoroughness of treatment	3.38	3 (Good)	2475
601111	HALTCATION			
	UNICATION			
19.	Explanations of medical	2 27	2 (04)	2446
20	procedures and tests	3.37	3 (Good)	2446
20.	Attention given to what	2 21	3 (Cood)	2400
21	you have to say	3.21	3 (Good)	2490
21.	Advice you get about ways to avoid illness & stay healthy	3.29	3 (Cood)	2351
	avoid titless a stay hearthy	3.43	3 (Good)	2331

TABLE 1 CONTINUED

CONTENT CHOICE AND CONTINUITY	MEAN	MEDIAN	n
22. Number of doctors you have to choose from	2.36	2 (Fair)	2174
23. Arrangements for choosing a personal doctor24. Ease of seeing the doctor of	2.07	2 (Fair)	1924
your choice	2.21	2 (Fair)	2012
INTERPERSONAL CARE 25. Friendliness and courtesy			
shown to you by doctors and medical staff 26. Personal interest in you	3.59	4 (Very good)	2504
and your medical problems 27. Respect shown to you, attention	3.29	3 (Good)	2496
to your privacy 28. Reassurance and support offered	3.55	4 (Very good)	2494
to you by doctors and medical staff	3.41	3 (Good)	2455
29. Friendliness and courtesy shown to you by adminstrative staff (e.g., receptionist)	3.28	3 (Good)	2485
30. Amount of time you have with doctors and medical staff	3.20	o (dood)	2100
during a visit	3.15	3 (Good)	2484
OUTCOMES 31. The outcomes of your medical			
care (how much you are helped) 32. Overall quality of care and	3.41	, ,	2473
services	3.42	3 (Good)	2497
GENERAL SATISFACTION			
 I am very satisfied with the medical care I receive. There are some things about 	2.40	2 (Agree)	2612
 There are some things about the medical care I receive that could be better. 	2 17	2 (Agree)	2542
33. The medical care I have been receiving is just	2.17	z (ngree)	2342
about perfect. 34. I am dissatisfied with some	2.88	3 (Not sure)	2575
things about the medical care I receive.	2.72	2 (Agree)	2550

TABLE 2

MEANS AND ONE-WAY ANOVA COMPARISONS (n=2874)
FOR GHAA CONTENT CATEGORIES

CATEGORY OF BENEFICIARY	1	2	3	4	
<u>CONTENT</u>	<u>ActDut</u>	AD Dep	<u>Retrd</u>	Rtd Dep	Cmprsn (sign)
	<u>(n=796)</u>	<u>(n=356)</u>	<u>(n=1186</u>	(n=712)	
1 ACCESS	2.9	2.7	3.2	3.1	3=4>1>2
2 FINANCES	3.3	2.9	3.3	3.1	1=3>4>2
3 TECHNICAL QUALITY	3.1	3.0	3.6	3.5	3=4>1=2
4 COMMUNICATION	3.1	2.8	3.5	3.3	3=4>1>2
5 CHOICE AND CONTINUITY	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.3	3=4>2=1
6 INTERPERSONAL CARE	3.1	2.8	3.7	3.4	3>4>1>2
7 OUTCOMES	3.1	3.0	3.7	3.4	3>4>1=2
8 OVERALL QUALITY	3.1	2.9	3.7	3.5	3>4>1=2
9 TIME SPENT	2.9	2.7	3.4	3.2	3>4>1=2
10 GENERAL SATISFACTION	2.7	2.5	3.1	3.0	3=4>1=2

TYPE OF NEAREST DOD FACIL	LITY 1	2	
<u>CONTENT</u>	MEDCEN	MEDDAC	Cmprsn
	(n=1147)	(n=1903)	
1 ACCESS	3.1	3.0	1>2
2 FINANCES	3.3	3.1	1>2
3 TECHNICAL QUALITY	3.5	3.2	1>2
4 COMMUNICATION	3.4	3.2	1>2
5 CHOICE AND CONTINU	ITY 2.3	2.2	1>2
6 INTERPERSONAL CARE	3.5	3.2	1>2
7 OUTCOMES	3.5	3.3	1>2
8 OVERALL QUALITY	3.6	3.2	1>2
9 TIME SPENT	3.2	3.0	1>2
10 GENERAL SATISFACTION	ON 3.0	2.8	1>2

HEALTH CARE PROGRAM USED MOS	ST 1	2	3	
<u>CONTENT</u>		CHMP plus		<u>Cmprsn</u>
	(n=1164)	(n=949)	(n=514)	
1 ACCESS	3.1	2.9	3.0	1>3=2
2 FINANCES	3.3	3.0	3.3	1=3>2
3 TECHNICAL QUALITY	3.4	3.2	3.4	1=3>2
4 COMMUNICATION	3.3	3.2	3.2	1=3>2
5 CHOICE AND CONTINUITY	2.3	2.2	2.2	1=3>2
6 INTERPERSONAL CARE	3.4	3.2	3.4	1>2
7 OUTCOMES	3.4	3.2	3.4	1>2
8 OVERALL QUALITY	3.3	3.2	3.4	1=3>2
9 TIME SPENT	3.2	3.0	3.1	1>2
10 GENERAL SATISFACTION	3.0	2.7	2.9	1=3>2

TABLE 2 CONTINUED

HSED	$D \cap D$	FACTI	TTV	TN	TZAI	12	MONTHS
USED	עטע	LWOIL		T 14	LMJI	16	PIUNITA

CONTENT	YEC	NO	6
<u>CONTENT</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NU</u>	<u>Cmprsn</u>
	(n=2224)	<u>(n=459)</u>	
1 ACCESS	3.1	2.8	1>2
2 FINANCES	3.2	3.0	1>2
3 COMMUNICATION	3.4	3.1	1>2
4 FINANCES	3.3	3.0	1>2
5 INTERPERSONAL CARE	2.3	2.0	1>2
6 TECHNICAL QUALITY	3.4	3.1	1>2
7 OUTCOMES	3.4	3.2	1>2
8 OVERALL QUALITY	3.4	3.2	1>2
9 TIME SPENT	3.1	2.8	1>2
10 GENERAL SATISFACTION	2.9	2.8	1>2

TABLE 3

FOUR-WAY ANOVA COMPARISONS ON GHAA CONTENT CATEGORIES (Significance Levels)

		Main Effects			<u>Interactions</u>				Mult	r n
CO	<u>NTENT</u>	<u>CatBen</u>	MTF	H1tPrg	<u>Used</u>	<u>2x</u>	<u>3x</u>	<u>4x</u>		
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	4					
1	ACCESS	0001	047	0001	004	yes	ns	ns	.055	2520
2	FINANCES	0001	ns	0001	025	ns	yes	ns	.029	1906
3	TECHNICAL QUALITY	0001	0001	0001	0001	yes	ns	ns	.088	2420
4	COMMUNICATION	0001	002	003	0001	yes	ns	ns	.063	2431
5	CHOICE AND CONTINUITY	0001	ns	002	0001	yes	ns	ns	.046	2178
6	INTERPERSONAL CARE	0001	003	001	0001	yes	yes	ns	.094	2450
7	OUTCOMES	0001	0001	0001	0001	yes	ns	ns	.080	2392
8	OVERALL QUALITY	0001	0001	0001	0001	yes	ns	yes	.091	2414
9	TIME SPENT	0001	ns	0001	0001	yes	ns	ns	.065	2400
10	GENERAL SATISFACTION	0001	001	0001	001	yes	ns	ns	.074	2570

TABLE 4
PATIENT SATISFACTION COMMENTS

<u>CONTENT</u> <u>O</u> #	<u>†</u>	AD	<u>ADD</u>	Ret	RtD	<u>Totals</u>	
Ol Genrl Satisfaction	1,33		22	18	81	69	190
29 Pos Overall Qual Care	32		13	8	30	13	64
33 Pos Private Hlth Ins	36		1	0	21	11	33
35 Pos Spec Clin/Sv/Dpt			10	10	16	9	45
52 Needs Improvement	2		10	7	10	6	33
53 General Dissatisfaction	34		35	22	48	26	131
54 Neg Convnc Location Office	3		7	4	29	13	5 3
56 Neg Accs to Spec Care	5		15	14	47	33	109
57 Neg Accs to Hosp Care	6		2	1	25	21	49
59 Neg Arrngmt Appointments	8		23	25	62	59	169
60 Neg Waiting Time Office	9		23	14	14	13	64
61 Neg Waiting Time Bet App	10		11	4	11	6	32
64 Neg Aval Prescrptn	13		6	8	24	17	55
76 Neg Frndl & Crt Staff	25		10	8	12	5	35
78 Neg Helpfulness Care	31		16	9	7	5	37
79 Neg Overall Qual Care	32		12	5	10	12	39
85 Neg Spec Clin/Sv/Dpt			30	14	27	15	86
88 Neg Physicians			29	24	16	15	84
90 Comments about survey			11	5	10	5	31
99 Other			60	19	95	53	227

Note: AD (active duty), ADD (active duty dependent), Ret (retired), RtD (retired/deceased dependent)

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APPENDIX A

PATIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY INSTRUMENT

SURVEY APPROVAL AUTHORITY: U.S. Army Personnel Integration Command SURVEY CONTROL NUMBER: ATNC-A0-91-24 RCS:MILPC-3

SATISFACTION WITH MEDICAL CARE

The United States Army Health Services Command is looking for ways to improve the military health care system. The purpose of this survey is to document how you feel about the medical care you receive at your current local military medical treatment facility. For each statement, circle one number or fill in a response. Please answer all questions. Your answers will be treated as confidential.

Please indicate the name, location, and service of the United States military medical treatment facility where you currently, or most recently received medical care. If you have never received medical care at a military medical treatment facility, please circle "none" and skip to question 49.

		itary facili			
Service:	Army/Air	Force/Navy/	/Marine/Public	Health:	
None					

THINKING ABOUT YOUR MEDICAL CARE, PLEASE INDICATE HOW MUCH YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH EACH STATEMENT. (Circle one number for each.)

		Strongly Agree		<u>Not</u> Sure	<u>S</u> <u>Disagree</u> D	trongly lisagree	
1.	I am very satisfied with the medical care I receive.	1	2	3	4	5	(1)
2.	There are some things about the medical care I receive that could be better.	1	2	3	4	5	(2)

THINKING ABOUT YOUR OWN MEDICAL CARE, HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE FOLLOWING? (If you have not received care recently, or have not used a particular service, circle #6: "Have Not Used.") (Circle one number for each.)

		<u>Poor</u>	<u>Fair</u>	Good	<u>Very</u> Good	Excel- lent	Not Used	
ACCE	SS: Arranging For and Getting Ca	ire						
3.	Convenience of location of the doctor's office	1	2	3	4	5	6	(3)
4.	Hours when the doctor's office is open	1	2	3	4	5	6	(4)
5.	Access to specialty care if you need it	1	2	3	4	5	6	(5)

		<u>Poor</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Good</u>	Very Good	Excel- lent	<u>Have</u> <u>Not</u> Used	
6.	Access to hospital care if you need it	1	2	3	4	5	6	(6)
7.	Access to medical care in an emergency	1	2	3	4	5	6	(7)
8.	Arrangements for making appoint- ments for medical care by phone	1	2	3	4	5	6	(8)
9.	Length of time spent waiting at the office to see the doctor	1	2	3	4	5	6	(9)
10.	Length of time you wait between making an appointment for routing care and the day of your visit	e 1	2	3	4	5	6	(10)
11.	Availability of medical infor- mation or advice by phone	1	2	3	4	5	6	(11)
12.	Access to medical care whenever you need it	1	2	3	4	5	6	(12)
13.	Services available for getting prescriptions filled	1	2	3	4	5	6	(13)
FINA	NCES							
14.	Protection you have against hardship due to medical expenses	1	2	3	4	5	6	(14)
15.	Arrangements for you to get the medical care you need without financial problems	1	2	3	4	5	6	(15)
TECH	NICAL QUALITY							
16.	Thoroughness of examinations and accuracy of diagnoses	1	2	3	4	5	6	(16)
17.	Skill, experience, and training of doctors	1	2	3	4	5	6	(17)
18.	Thoroughness of treatment	1	2	3	4	5	6	(18)
COMM	UNICATION							
19.	Explanations of medical procedures and tests	1	2	3	4	5	6	(19)

		<u>Poor</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Good</u>	Very Good	Excel- lent	<u>Have</u> <u>Not</u> Used	
20.	Atcention given to what you have to <ay< td=""><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>(20)</td></ay<>	1	2	3	4	5	6	(20)
21.	Advice you get about ways to avoid illness & stay healthy	1 •	2	3	4	5	6	(21)
СНОІ	CE AND CONTINUITY							
22.	Number of doctors you have to choose from	1	2	3	4	5	6	(22)
23.	Arrangements for choosing a personal doctor	1	2	3	4	5	6	(23)
24.	Ease of seeing the doctor of your choice	1	2	3	4	5	6	(24)
INTE	RPERSONAL CARE							
25.	Friendliness and courtesy shown to you by doctors and medical staff	1	2	3	4	5	6	(25)
26.	Personal interest in you and your medical problems	1	2	3	4	5	6	(26)
27.	Respect shown to you, attention to your privacy	1	2	3	4	5	6	(27)
28.	Reassurance and support offered to you by doctors and medical staff	1	2	3	4	5	6	(28)
29.	Friendliness and courtesy shown to you by administrative staff (e.g., receptionist)	1	2	3	4	5	6	(29)
30.	Amount of time you have with doctors and medical staff during a visit	1	2	3	4	5	6	(30)
OUTC	OMES							
31.	The outcomes of your medical care (how much you are helped)	1	2	3	4	5	6	(31)
32.	Overall quality of care and services	1	2	3	4	5	6	(32)

THINKING ABOUT YOUR MEDICAL CARE, PLEASE INDICATE HOW MUCH YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH EACH STATEMENT. (Circle one number for each)

		Strongly Agree		Not Sure	<u>Disagree</u>	Strongly Disagree		
33.	The medical care I have been receiving is just about perfect.	1	2	3	4	5	(33)	
34.	I am dissatisfied with some things about the medical care I receive.	1	2	3	4	5	(34)	
	FOR THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS, RESPONSE.	PLEASE C	IRCLE <u>ON</u>	E <u>NUMB</u>	<u>ER</u> OR FIL	L IN A		
35.	Which one of the following bas best describes the type you pe							
	Department of Defense Medical Treatment Facility (MTF) only CHAMPUS only Medicare only Private health insurance (Blue Cross, AARP, etc.) only Combination of MTF and CHAMPUS Combination of MTF and CHAMPUS and private insurance Combination of MTF and Medicare Other combination 8							
36.	Is your spouse covered by a pr Medicare are not considered pr					HAMPUS and		
	Does not apply, I am not marri Yes No	ied	1 2 3				(36)	
37.	What type of private health in currently have through his/her			s your	spouse			
	Does not apply, I am not marris Does not apply, my spouse is r currently working No coverage through current jo Private health insurance that reimburses for/pays part Prepaid plan, such as an HMO Other kind	ob	1 2 3 4 5 6				(37)	
38.	Are your dependent children co	overed by	a priva	te hea	lth insur	ance plan?		
	Does not apply, I have no depe Yes No	endent chi	ildren		1 2 3		(38)	

39.	How long have you personally used t system (such as a military medical	he Department of Defense health care treatment facility)?	
	Does not apply, I have not used Less than 1 year 1 - 2 years 3 or more years	1 2 3 4	(39)
40.		he Department of Defense health care treatment facility at this current	
	Does not apply, I have not used Less than 1 year 1 - 2 years 3 or more years	1 2 3 4	(40)
41.	Have you personally used the Depart such as a military medical treatmen		
	Yes No	1 2	(41)
42.	During the last 12 months, how many medical care (when you stayed OVERN treatment facility)?	admissions did you personally have for IGHT in the local military medical	
	Zero (no overnight stays) 1 One 2 Two to four 3 Five to nine 4 Ten or more 5		(42)
43.	During the last 12 months, how many your family have for medical care (local military medical treatment fa	when they stayed OVERNIGHT in the	
	Does not apply, I have no other fam Zero (no overnight stays) One Two to four Five to nine Ten or more	1 2 3 4 5 6	(43)
44.		outpatient visits did you personally lude medical visits when you stayed ical treatment facility)	
	None 1 1 visit 2 2 - 4 visits 3 5 - 9 visits 4		
	10 or more visits 5		(44)

46. For the military medical treatment facility at your current location, how long do you usually have to wait between the time you make an appointment for care and the day you actually see the provider? Does not apply, I have not used					
None 1 visit 3	45.	your family make for medical	care? (DO NOT include m	edical visits when	f
long do you usually have to wait between the time you make an appointment for care and the day you actually see the provider? Does not apply, I have not used 1 2 days or less 2 3 days to 1 week 3 1 to 2 weeks 4 3 1 to 2 weeks 5 5 5 to 6 weeks 5 5 to 6 weeks 6 6 7 to 8 weeks 7 9 or more weeks 8 (46) 47. At the military medical treatment facility at your current location, how long do you usually have to wait to see your provider when you have an appointment for care? Less than 10 minutes 1 1 10 - 15 minutes 2 16 - 30 minutes 3 3 31 - 45 minutes 4 46 - 60 minutes 5 More than 60 minutes 6 (47) 48. When you go for medical care how often do you see the same doctor? Always 1 Most of the time 2 Sometimes 3 Rarely or never 4 (48) PERSONAL INFORMATION The personal information is requested for comparison with responses from individuals using other types of health care facilities. Answers will be treated as confidential. Only group summary responses will be reported. 49. What is your personal health status? Excellent 1 Very good 2 Good 3 Gair 4 4		None 1 visit 2 - 4 visits 5 - 9 visits	her family members	2 3 4 5	(45)
2 days to 1 week 3 1 to 2 weeks 4 3 to 4 weeks 5 5 to 6 weeks 6 7 to 8 weeks 7 9 or more weeks 8 (46) 47. At the military medical treatment facility at your current location, how long do you usually have to wait to see your provider when you have an appointment for care? Less than 10 minutes 1 10 - 15 minutes 2 16 - 30 minutes 3 31 - 45 minutes 4 46 - 60 minutes 5 More than 60 minutes 6 (47) 48. When you go for medical care how often do you see the same doctor? Always 1 Most of the time 2 Sometimes 3 Rarely or never 4 (48) PERSONAL INFORMATION The personal information is requested for comparison with responses from individuals using other types of health care facilities. Answers will be treated as confidential. Only group summary responses will be reported. 49. What is your personal health status? Excellent 1 Very good 2 Good 3 Fair 4	46.	long do you usually have to v	wait between the time you		
long do you usually have to wait to see your provider when you have an appointment for care? Less than 10 minutes		2 days or less 3 days to 1 week 1 to 2 weeks 3 to 4 weeks 5 to 6 weeks 7 to 8 weeks	2 3 4 5 6 7		(46)
10 - 15 minutes 2 16 - 30 minutes 3 31 - 45 minutes 4 46 - 60 minutes 5 More than 60 minutes 6 (47) 48. When you go for medical care how often do you see the same doctor? Always 1 Most of the time 2 Sometimes 3 Rarely or never 4 (48) PERSONAL INFORMATION The personal information is requested for comparison with responses from individuals using other types of health care facilities. Answers will be treated as confidential. Only group summary responses will be reported. 49. What is your personal health status? Excellent 1 Very good 2 Good 3 Fair 4	47.	long do you usually have to w			
Always Most of the time Sometimes Rarely or never The personal information is requested for comparison with responses from individuals using other types of health care facilities. Answers will be treated as confidential. Only group summary responses will be reported. What is your personal health status? Excellent Very good Good Good Fair 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		10 - 15 minutes 16 - 30 minutes 31 - 45 minutes 46 - 60 minutes	2 3 4 5		(47)
Most of the time 2 Sometimes 3 Rarely or never 4 (48) PERSONAL INFORMATION The personal information is requested for comparison with responses from individuals using other types of health care facilities. Answers will be treated as confidential. Only group summary responses will be reported. 49. What is your personal health status? Excellent 1 Very good 2 Good 3 Fair 4	48.	When you go for medical care	how often do you see the	same doctor?	
The personal information is requested for comparison with responses from individuals using other types of health care facilities. Answers will be treated as confidential. Only group summary responses will be reported. 49. What is your personal health status? Excellent Very good Good Fair 4		Most of the time Sometimes	2 3		(48)
individuals using other types of health care facilities. Answers will be treated as confidential. Only group summary responses will be reported. 49. What is your personal health status? Excellent Very good Good Fair 4	PERSO	DNAL INFORMATION			
Excellent 1 Very good 2 Good 3 Fair 4		/iduals using other types of h	health care facilities.	Answers will be	
Very good 2 Good 3 Fair 4	49.	What is your personal health	status?		
		Very good Good Fair	2 3 4		(49)

(49)

50.	What is your a	ge group as of	your las	t birthday?		
	Less than 21 y 21 - 30 years 31 - 40 years 41 - 50 years 51 - 60 years More than 60 y		1 2 3 4 5 6			(50)
51.	Are you male o	r female?				
	Male Female		1 2			(51)
52.	What is your p	ersonal racial	backgrou	nd?		
	White Black Asian or Pacif American India	ic Islander n, Aleut, Eskiπ	10	1 2 3 4		(52)
53.	Are you of His	panic/Spanish o	rigin or	descent?		
	Yes No		1 2			(53)
54.	What was the h number for the	ighest grade yo category that	u comple includes	ted in school? (the highest grad	Circle only le you compl	one eted.)
	Less than 8th Some high scho High school gr Some college College gradua Post-graduate	ool aduate or GED		1 2 3 4 5 6		(54)
55.				f you are active are a family men		
	PV1/E1 1 PV2/E2 2 PFC/E3 3 CPL,SPC/E4 4 SGT/E5 5 SSG/E6 6 SFC/E7 7 MSG/1SG/E8 8 CSM/E9 9	CW2 CW3 CW4	10 11 12 13	2LT/01 1LT/02 CPT/03 MAJ/04 LTC/05 COL/06 COL+	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	(55,56)
	•					•

301	before taxes?	Tamery 5 COC	at medi	ne rast year	
	Less than \$10,000 \$10,000 to \$19,999 \$20,000 to \$29,999 \$30,000 to \$39,999 \$40,000 to \$49,999 \$50,000 to \$59,999 \$60,000 to \$69,999 \$70,000 to \$79,999 \$80,000 or more	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8			(57)
57.	Which of the following best	describes yo	ur curre	ent marital status?	
	Single, never married Married Separated Divorced Widowed	1 2 3 4 5			(58)
58.	What is the zip code at you	r local addre	ess?		
	Zip Coo	de:		_	(59-63)
59.	Which category of benefician	ry best descr	ribes yo	u?	
	Service member on active dur Family member of active duty Retired service member Family member of retired ser	y service men	ıber	1 2 3 4	(64
60.	Have you participated in Ope	eration Deser	rt Shiel	d?	
	Yes No		1 2		(65)
Addi	tional comments:				
					(66-67)
					(68-69)
					(70-71)
					(72-73
					(74-75
	Thank you for your cooperat	ion!			
				CASE #	(76-80
					(10-00

APPENDIX B

PSYCHOMETRICS

The GHAA survey instrument consists of 34 rated items using a 5-point Likert scale. For the present study, one additional scale point was added to the GHAA 5-point scale, that of "Have Not Used." This scale point was treated as a missing value. With the modified instrument, GHAA recommends reverse scoring of two items (Q1 and Q33) so the content of the items would be worded in the same direction.

Factor Analysis

Responses from the 3050 respondents were submitted to a principal components factor analysis of the 34 rated items. Five factors with eigenvalues greater than 1.0 were obtained, accounting for 70.8% of the cumulative variance. A Varimax rotation with Kaiser normalization was performed on the factors. Items having an item-total of .45 and greater were extracted.

Reliability Estimates: Coefficient Alphas of GHAA Content Categories

The GHAA content categories were subjected to reliability estimates using the Kuder Richardson procedure to calculate coefficient alpha. Coefficient alphas for the separate GHAA scales consisting of more than one item are shown.

Content Category Name	Number	of	Coefficient	Number of
	Items	Items	Alpha	Cases
Access	11	Q3-Q13	.913	1368
Finances	2	Q14-Q15	.937	1747
Technical Quality	3	Q16-Q18	.954	2412
Communication	3	Q19-Q21	.8 9 8	2297
Choice and Continuity	3	Q22-Q24	. 9 28	1850
Interpersonal Care	6	025-030	.947	2368
Outcomes	2	Q31-Q32	.928	2460
#General Satisfaction	4 (1-02,033-034	.844	2411

Note: # GHAA reverse scored

Reliability Estimates: Coefficient Alphas of Item Clusters From Factor Analysis

Reliability estimates were calculated for the item clusters extracted from the factor analysis. Coefficient alphas for the separate item clusters consisting of at least two items were:

<u> Item Cluster Name</u>	Number of	Coefficien	t Number of
	<u>Items</u> <u>I</u>	tems Alpha	Cases
Interpersonal/Technica	1 16 Q1,Q16-Q	21,Q25-Q33 .920	2046
Ease/Timeliness	7 Q8-Q11	,Q22-Q24 .910	1461
Access	7 03-07	,Q12-Q13 .879	1746
#General Satisfaction	4 Q1-Q2,	Q33-Q34 .885	2411
Finances	2 014,	015 .937	1747

Note: # GHAA reverse scored

Reliability Estimates: Inter-Item Correlations

Inter-item Pearson product moment correlation coefficients were calculated between selected items. The items selected were from the GHAA General Satisfaction content category. Correlation matrices for raw and for reverse-scored items follow.

	Raw Score	Items:	GHAA R	everse-Scored Items:
	Q1 Q2 Q	33 Q34	#Q1	Q2 #Q33 Q34
Q1	-481 7	14 -558	#Q1	481 714 558
Q2	-4	87 541	Q2	- 4 87 5 41
Q33		-645	#Q33	-645

Note: # GHAA reverse scored

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